

University of California
College of Agriculture
Agricultural Experiment Station
Berkeley, California

STATISTICAL SUPPLEMENT

TO

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION CIRCULAR 373

CALIFORNIA ASPARAGUS

ECONOMIC STATUS, 1947

by

Sidney Hoos and H. Fisk Phelps

September, 1947

Contribution from the
Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics

Statistical Supplement to Agricultural
Experiment Station Circular 373
California Asparagus, Economic Status, 1947

Sidney Hoos^{1/} and H. Fisk Phelps^{2/}

The data presented in this report are basic for an evaluation of the 1947 outlook for California asparagus. The data have been used in an analysis of the asparagus situation in California with special reference to the status in 1947. Since that report, released separately, includes summary tables and charts, the more extended and comprehensive data are made available in this report for use by those individuals interested in the detailed statistics.

CONTENTS

Charts	Pages
Utilization	2-4
Fresh shipments.	5
Prices.	6-8
Canned pack, carryover and shipments.	9-11
Tables	
Acreage.	12-16
Production	17-19
Yield.	20-21
Utilization.	22-25
Fresh shipments.	26-28
Prices.	29-31
Canned pack, carryover and shipments.	32-35
Summary of California Canning Asparagus Controls. . .	36-41

^{1/} Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics, Associate Economist in the Experiment Station and on the Giannini Foundation.

^{2/} Associate on the Giannini Foundation and in the Experiment Station.

Figure 1
 Utilization of California
 Harvested Asparagus Production
 1918-1945.



Source of data: Table 7.

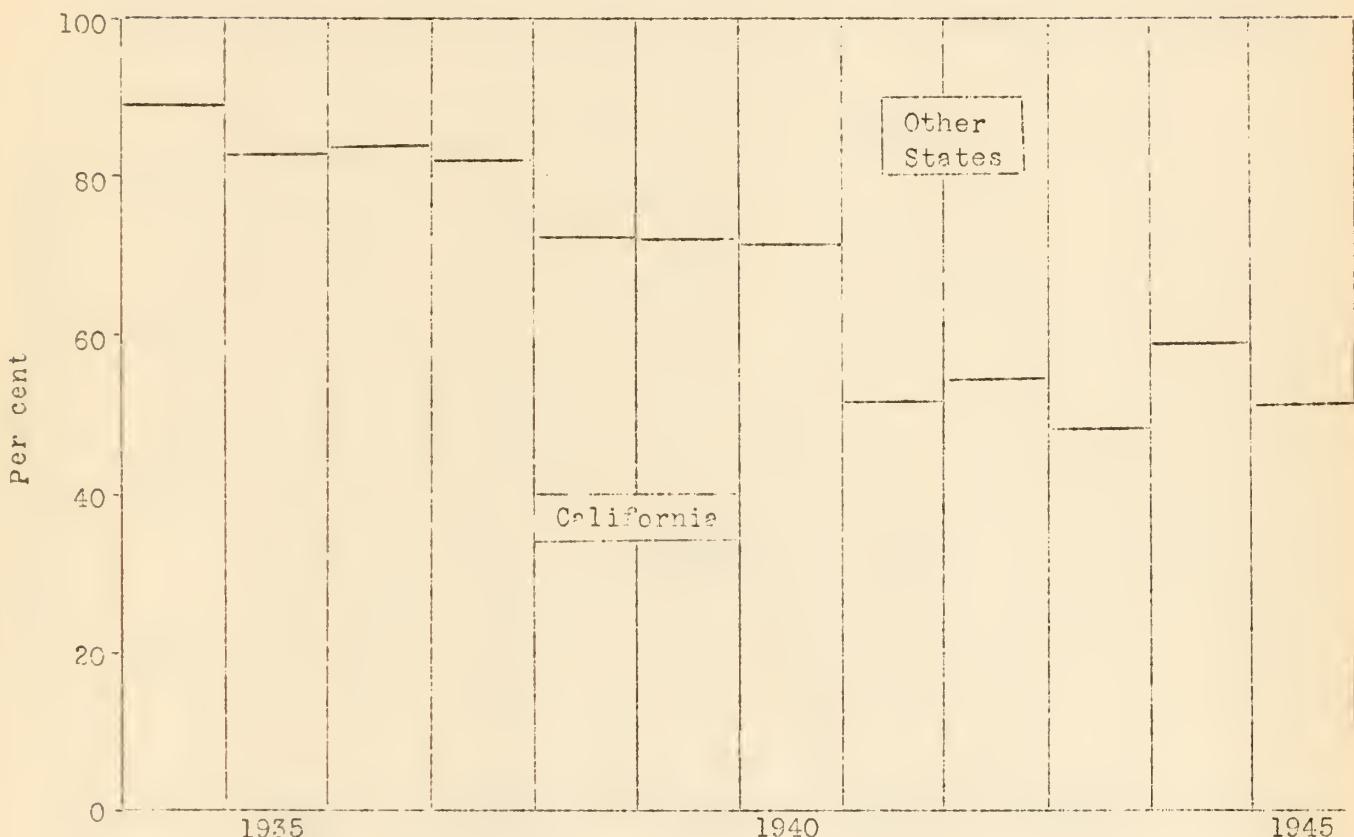
Asparagus production for canning in California increased rapidly from 1921 to 1929. After a sharp drop in 1931 and 1932, production rose again through 1936 but not to its former 1929 high. Since 1936, the yearly fluctuations have been great, but the general trend of production for canning has been downward.

Production for fresh market showed a similar rise from 1922 to 1932 as did canning production. Production decreased to 1938, rose again by 1941 to almost the 1932 peak, but has declined since 1941.

Reported production for frozen use began in 1937 but has not yet reached a relatively significant volume.

Figure 2

Asparagus Production for Canning in California
and Other States as Per Cent of United States
Production for Canning
1934-1945



Source of data: Based on Tables 6 and 7.

Since 1934, California asparagus production for canning has become an increasingly smaller percentage of the total United States production for canning. Contributing about 90% of the total production for canning in 1934, the State, in seven years, dropped to the position of supplying about 50% of the production. From 1941 on, the State has maintained this position, with slight yearly fluctuations.

A very faint, light-colored watermark or background image of a classical building with multiple columns and a triangular pediment is visible across the entire page.

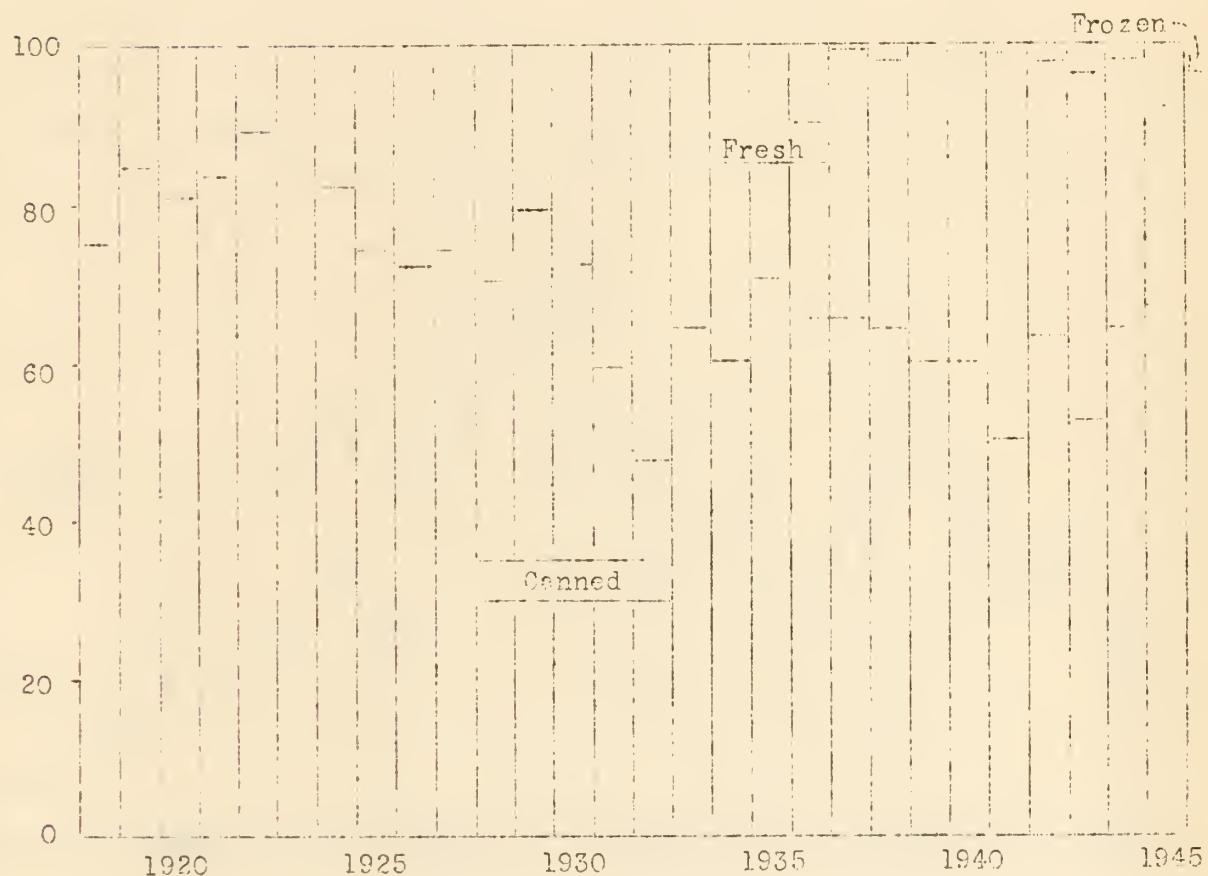
Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2012 with funding from
University of California, Davis Libraries

<http://archive.org/details/statisticalsup37347hoos>

Figure 3

Percentage Utilization of California
Asparagus Production
1918-1945

Per cent of harvested production



Source of data: Based on Table 7.

The percentage of California harvested asparagus production utilized for canning increased from 1918 to 1922, and then decreased, with yearly fluctuations, to 1932. After 1932, the per cent used for canning rose to a slightly higher level, and since then has remained at about 60% of production.

The percentage of production moving into fresh market has shown an opposite movement to the percentage used for canning. The fresh market proportion decreased to 1922, then increased until 1932, and shortly thereafter returned to about 35% of harvested production where it has remained relatively constant.

Reported movement of California production into frozen channels began in 1937, but has not yet represented an appreciable proportion of the State's asparagus production.

Figure 4

Carlot Shipments of Fresh Asparagus
in California and the United States
1920-1945



Source of data: Table 8.

California carlot shipments of fresh asparagus increased steadily from 1922 to 1932. From 1932 to 1938 there was a sharp decline in shipments, followed by an increase up to 1940. Since 1940 California shipments have decreased steadily.

United States shipments have followed an almost identical pattern as California shipments. During the period from 1920 to 1945, California shipments have made up an increasingly greater per cent of the total United States shipments.

Figure 5

California Season's Average Farm Price
for Fresh Market and Processing Asparagus
1918-1946



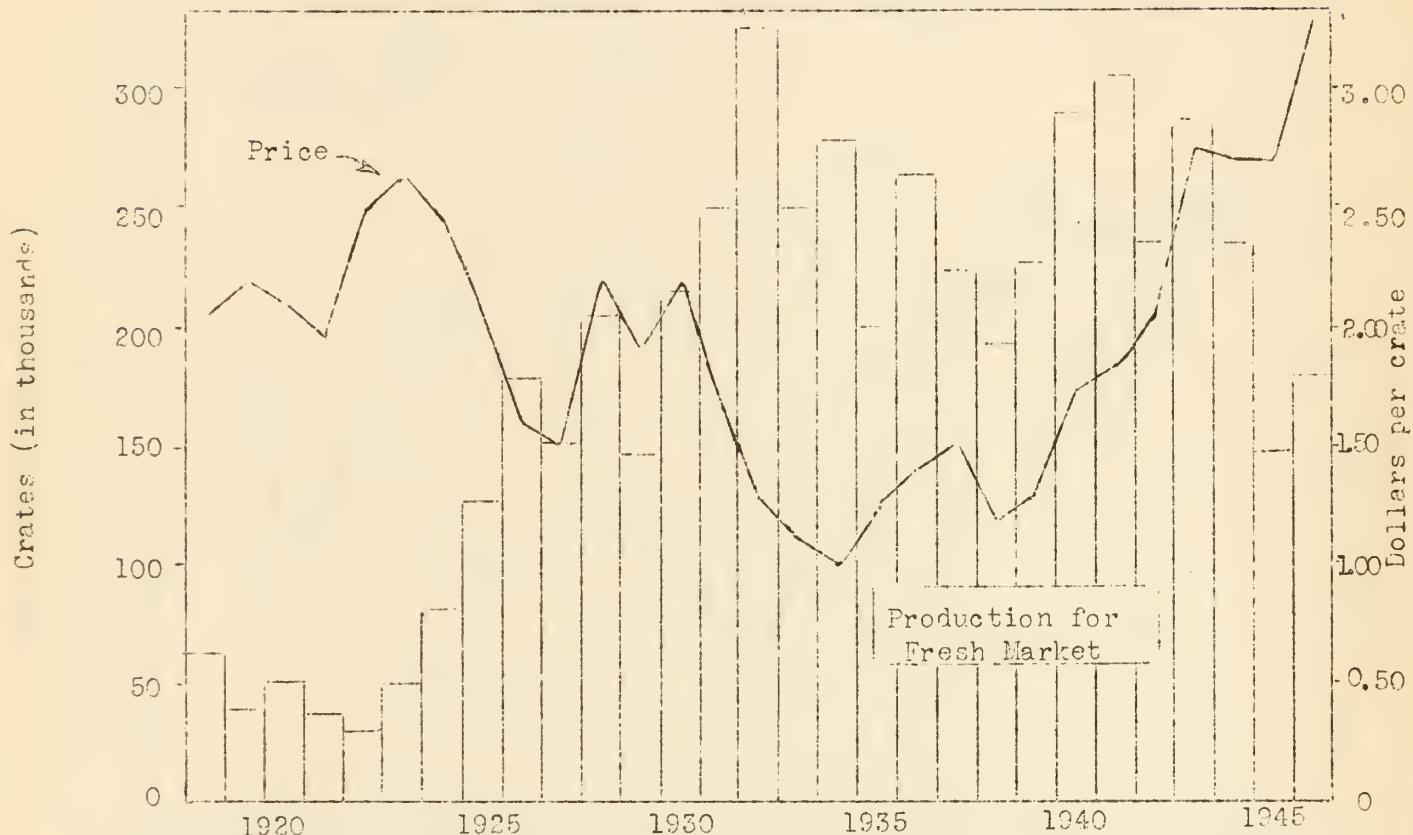
Source of data: Based on Table 10.

The California farm price for fresh market asparagus evidenced great fluctuations between 1918 and 1934. After a slight decrease in 1920 and 1921, it rose rapidly to 1923, then decreased sharply to 1927. After rising again in 1928 and 1930, the price decreased rapidly to less than half the 1920-23 level. From 1934 on, with the exception of the decreases in 1933, 1944 and 1945, the price increased steadily to a new high in 1946.

The farm price for processing asparagus has shown less violent yearly fluctuations. After a downward trend from 1918 to 1933, the price has risen steadily, except for 1933 and 1939, to about twice the 1918-20 level.

Figure 6

California Asparagus Production for Fresh Market
and Season's Average Farm Price for Fresh Market Asparagus
1918-1946



Source of data: Tables 4 and 10.

The price per crate received by California farmers for fresh market asparagus has, in general, moved in the opposite direction from California production for fresh market. After a brief rise and fall, the price rose sharply to a high in 1923 while production decreased slightly. As production began increasing rapidly up to a high in 1932, the price dropped sharply, rose some in 1929 and 1930, and then continued on down to a low in 1934. After 1932, production began decreasing with great yearly fluctuations to 1938, while the price rose to 1937 and likewise dropped in 1938. From 1939 on, the price increased sharply to 1943, leveled off and rose again in 1946; production increased also to 1941, but thereafter began decreasing with strong yearly fluctuations.

Figure 7

California Asparagus Production for Processing and
Season's Average Farm Price for Processing Asparagus
1918-1946



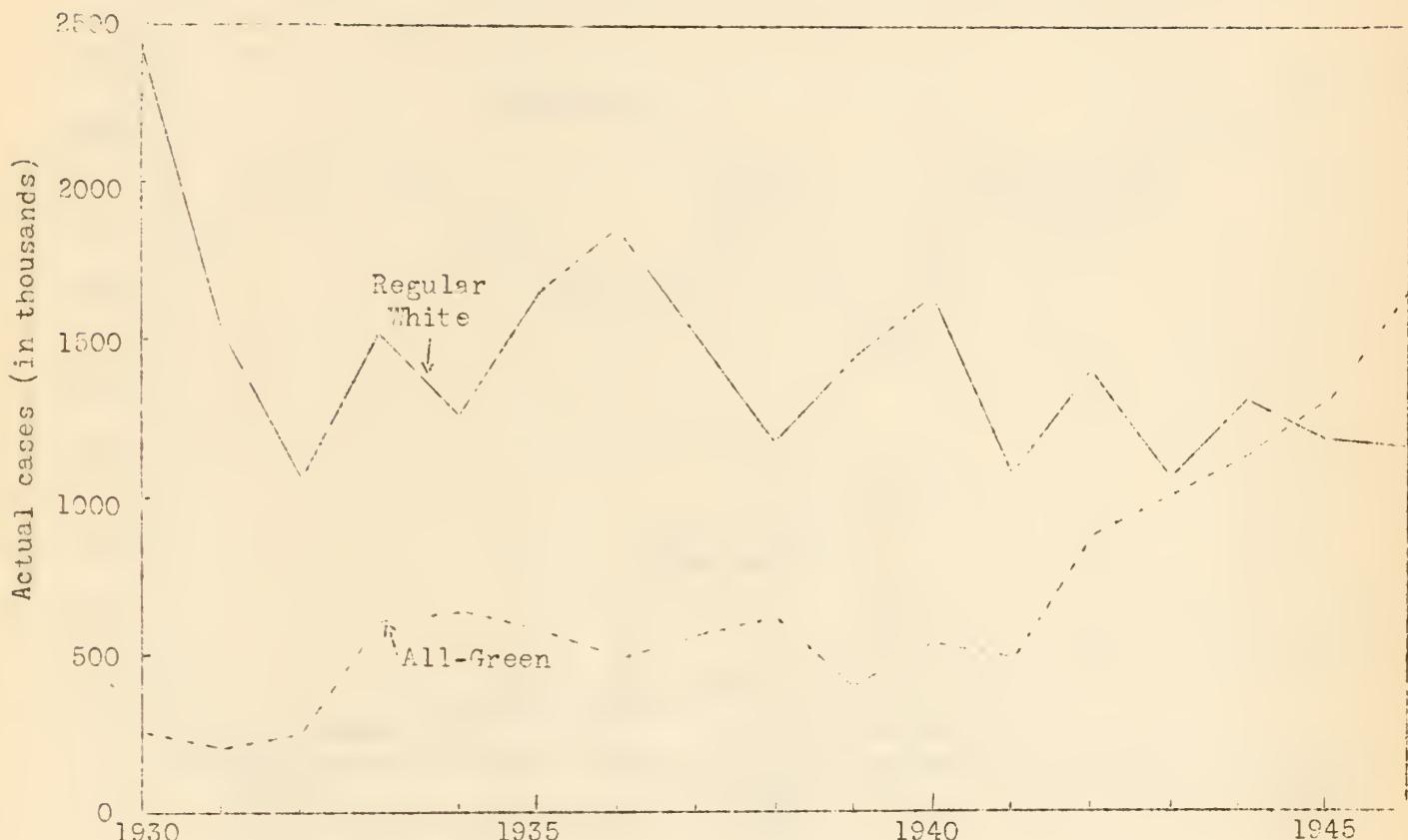
Source of data: Production data from Tables 7 and 11; price data from Table 10.

The price received by California farmers for processing asparagus has, in general, tended to follow the movement of production for processing use. Both price and production increased and then decreased from 1918 to 1921. As production increased rapidly from 1921 to 1929, price rose, dropped and rose again, though not to the 1918-21 level. Both price and production decreased from 1930 to 1932 and then increased to 1936. Production dropped again to 1941 and rose subsequently so that by 1946, the 1929 high point was almost reached. Since 1936, price has risen sharply, and the 1946 season price reached a level of \$183.00 per ton.

* Total production for commercial processing.

Figure 8

Canned Pack of Regular White and
All-Green Asparagus in California
1930-1946



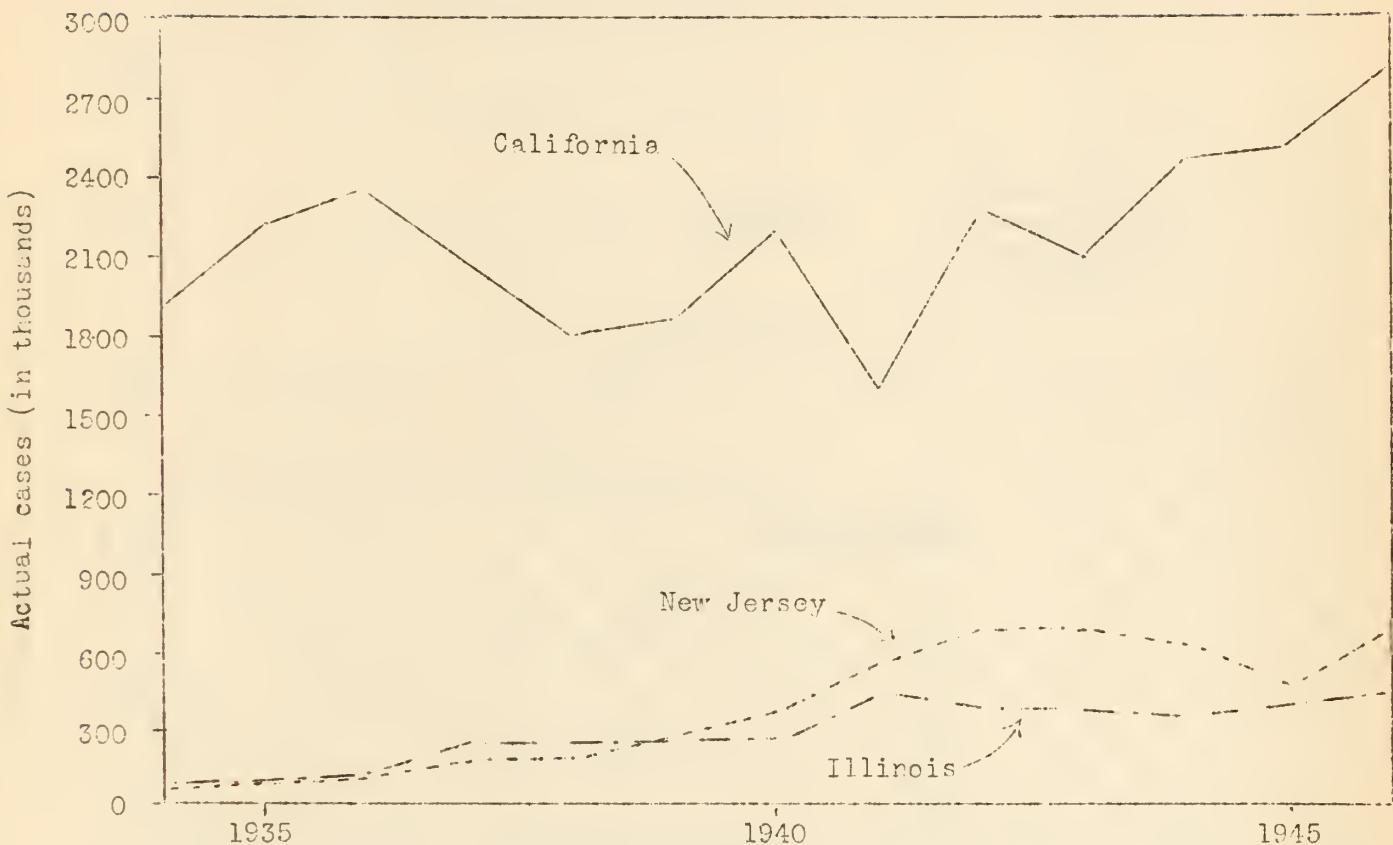
Source of data: Table 12; prior to 1934 same source as noted in Table 12.

The canned pack of regular white asparagus in California has been decreasing gradually since 1930. The sharp decrease to 1932 was followed by a partial recovery up to 1936, and then gradually continued the downward trend. During the period, 1930-46, the yearly fluctuations in the pack have become less and less violent.

The California pack of all-green asparagus in 1933 was more than double the 1930-32 level, and remained relatively constant at the higher level through 1941. Beginning with 1942, it has increased rapidly, exceeding the regular white pack during the last two years.

Figure 9

Canned Asparagus Pack
in California, New Jersey 1/ and Illinois 2/
1934-1946



Source of data: Table 12

The canned pack of asparagus in California increased from 1934 to 1936, then decreased to 1938. Since 1938, the pack has been gradually increasing.

The New Jersey canned pack increased steadily from 1934 to 1942, leveled off and then decreased slightly in 1945, but in 1946, the pack increased to the previous 1942 high.

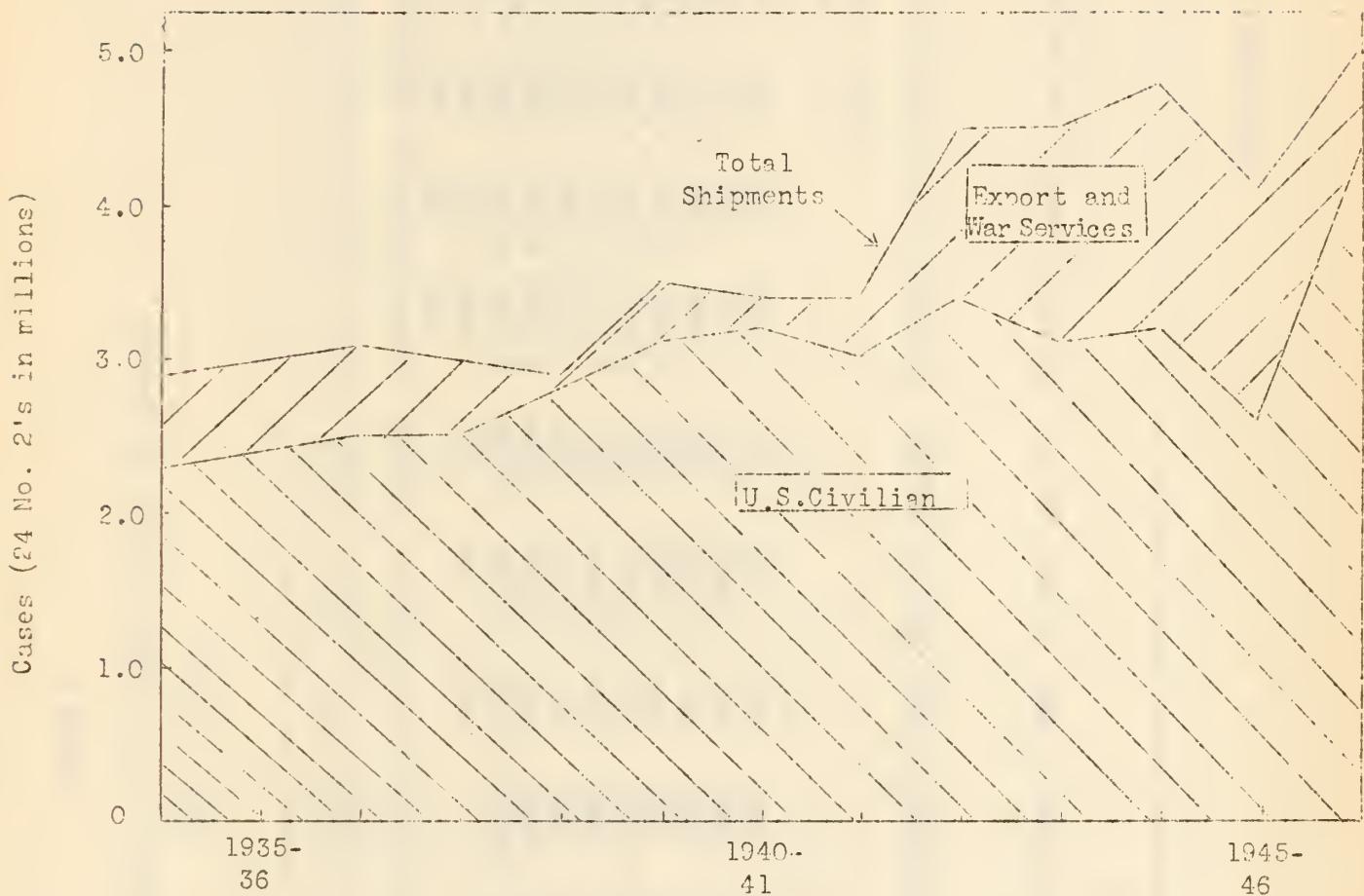
The canned pack in Illinois increased gradually to 1937, then leveled off through 1941. After 1941, the pack rose to a new high level which it maintained through 1946.

1/ Includes small quantities from Delaware and Maryland.

2/ Includes small quantities from Indiana, Iowa, and Nebraska.

Figure 10

United States Shipments of Canned Asparagus
to Civilians and to Exports and War Services
Seasons ^{1/}, 1934-35 to 1946-47



Source of data: Table 14

Domestic shipments of canned asparagus into civilian channels increased gradually from 1934-35 to 1942-43, followed a downward trend to 1945-46, and increased sharply in 1946-47.

Shipments into export channels and to war services were relatively constant until 1937-38. A decrease to a new level followed which lasted through 1941-42. Shipments then increased to a level more than twice that of the middle 30's, finally declining to the level of 1946-47.

Total U. S. shipments of canned asparagus have evidenced three distinct levels. The first level was from 1934-35 to 1938-39, the second from 1939-40 to 1941-42, and the third from 1942-43 to 1946-47. Since 1942-43, the level of shipments has been about 50% higher than during the period of 1934-35 to 1938-39.

^{1/} March-February, 1934-41; April-March, 1942-46.

TABLE 1

Acreage of Asparagus in the United States, by States
1918 - 1946

State	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
California	15,400	17,200	19,900	21,600	23,200	27,100	30,150	41,250	56,320	58,580	60,180	55,810	59,210	63,670
Oregon	-- ^a	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	160	160	400	570	540	540
Washington	--	--	--	--	--	--	450	520	720	860	1,300	1,740	2,000	2,000
Georgia	1,000	1,010	1,150	1,480	1,520	2,020	2,660	2,820	4,380	4,900	5,400	4,500	4,250	4,000
South Carolina	1,100	1,100	1,450	1,500	1,600	2,080	3,500	4,500	5,300	6,400	6,800	7,500	8,300	9,000
Maryland	480	440	460	420	440	440	1,200	1,600	1,920	2,120	2,000	1,900	2,050	2,000
Delaware	350	300	440	440	440	510	1,000	1,200	1,500	1,500	1,040	1,050	1,100	1,100
New Jersey	3,600	3,800	3,900	4,000	4,500	8,000	8,000	8,500	8,500	9,000	9,000	9,200	9,100	9,100
Pennsylvania	680	700	710	720	700	750	800	1,000	1,000	1,000	2,000	2,300	2,500	2,500
Michigan	110	200	200	200	200	250	350	400	500	600	1,000	1,300	1,400	1,400
Illinois	1,670	1,980	2,080	2,120	2,400	2,440	2,640	2,700	3,050	3,360	3,700	4,200	4,500	4,700
Iowa	70	70	80	140	140	140	140	140	150	200	200	350	360	400
Arizona	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	320
Nevada	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	180	130	130	130
Massachusetts	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2,100	2,200	2,300	2,250
Total U. S.	13,120	12,140	14,410	14,590	14,240	17,670	26,860	34,610	42,880	45,190	53,990	50,320	55,750	65,710
Total U. S. Fresh and processed	24,460	26,600	30,270	32,520	34,620	40,680	50,960	64,330	83,640	88,620	95,560	92,860	97,740	103,110

(Continued on next page). 12.

Table 1 continued.

State	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
California	70,500	76,550	73,280	70,670	67,300	67,260	71,510	76,750
Oregon	550	550	550	580	600	650	680	700
Washington	2,100	2,000	2,300	2,400	2,800	3,300	3,800	5,300
Georgia	4,000	3,900	3,600	3,100	3,100	2,700	2,100	2,000
South Carolina	9,500	9,500	9,500	9,500	9,500	8,800	8,600	8,200
Maryland	2,000	2,100	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,300	2,250	2,250
Delaware	1,050	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,200	1,300	1,400
New Jersey	9,600	10,600	11,200	11,400	11,600	12,400	13,400	15,400
Pennsylvania	2,500	2,300	2,400	2,300	2,200	2,100	2,200	2,200
Michigan	1,600	1,600	1,700	1,900	2,000	2,100	2,200	2,200
Illinois	5,100	5,300	5,200	5,000	5,100	5,400	5,400	6,000
Iowa	410	420	450	450	430	410	330	360
Arizona	320	320	320	320	320	320	220	240
Nevada	150	140	100	80	80	80	--	--
Massachusetts	2,150	2,050	2,050	2,050	1,950	1,900	1,850	1,900
Total U.S.	79,430	69,640	73,540	64,550	68,060	67,170	68,330	74,780
Total U.S. Fresh and processed:	111,530	118,430	115,950	113,050	110,280	110,920	115,840	124,900

(Continued on next page.)

Table 1 continued.

State	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
California	79,780	74,490	73,950	70,570	70,330	65,390	63,540
Oregon	700	700	800	800	800	800	800
Washington	6,800	8,200	8,500	9,500	9,300	9,400	9,400
Georgia	1,800	1,700	1,500	1,000	500	--	--
South Carolina	8,300	8,300	8,000	7,200	6,700	6,500	6,000
Maryland	2,250	2,250	2,300	2,300	2,100	2,000	2,000
Delaware	1,400	1,450	1,500	1,600	1,650	1,700	1,750
New Jersey	17,400	18,000	21,000	22,000	22,500	22,500	23,000
Pennsylvania	2,300	2,300	2,400	2,350	2,350	2,300	2,300
Michigan	2,900	3,500	3,900	4,200	4,450	4,600	5,200
Illinois	6,700	7,300	8,000	8,500	8,500	8,000	8,100
Iowa	520	530	530	530	500	1,030	980
Arizona	260	240	180	100	80	--	--
Nevada	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Massachusetts	1,850	1,850	1,800	1,800	1,750	1,750	1,750
Total U.S.	83,980	92,260	85,900	92,050	85,580	76,820	77,440
Fresh and processed:	132,960	131,810	134,360	132,450	131,510	126,170	124,820

^a No acreage reported.

Sources of data:

1918-1927: U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Estimates of Acreage, Production and Value
1918-1927, Washington, D.C., February 1944.

1928-1941: U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Revised Estimates of Acreage, Production and
Value 1928-1941, Washington, D.C., October 1943.

(Continued on next page.)

Table 1 continued.

- 1928-1941, Washington, D.C., 1943.
 U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Acreage and Production of Commercial Truck Crops -
 1942: 1943, Washington, D.C., December 17, 1943.
- 1943: U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Commercial Truck Crops for Fresh Market - Acreage,
 Production and Value - 1944 with Comparisons, Washington, D.C., December 18, 1944.
 U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Commercial Truck Crops for Fresh Market - Acreage,
 Production and Value - 1945 with Comparisons, Washington, D.C., December 18, 1945.
 U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Commercial Truck Crops for Fresh Market - Acreage,
 Production and Value - 1946 with Comparisons, Washington, D.C., December 17, 1946.
- 1943: U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Truck Crops for Commercial Processing - Acreage,
 Production and Value - 1944 with Comparisons, Washington, D.C., December 18, 1944.
 U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Truck Crops for Commercial Processing - Acreage,
 Production and Value - 1945 with Comparisons, Washington, D.C., December 16, 1945.
 U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Truck Crops for Commercial Processing - Acreage,
 Production and Value - 1946 with Comparisons, Washington, D.C., December 17, 1946.

TABLE 2

Acreage of Asparagus
in California by Counties
1936 - 1946

County	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945 ^a	1946 ^b
Stanislaus	-- ^c	100	100	100	100	100	--	--	--	--	--
Fresno, Merced	1,090	850	900	820	530	710	510	880	1,190	1,020	860
Tulare	320	400	480	610	680	730	830	880	700	730	740
Madera	--	--	--	--	300	300	400	400	260	300	260
Kern	40	40	40	--	--	380	950	970	920	550	440
S.-L. Obispo, S. Barb.	--	--	--	80	60	160	110	100	230	120	120
Los Angeles	1,200	1,350	1,450	1,600	1,750	1,800	1,520	1,450	1,600	1,500	1,500
Orange	150	200	200	300	300	300	300	250	200	150	100
Riverside	190	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
San Diego	300	300	250	320	300	250	340	160	50	30	30
San Bernardino	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	--
Imperial	2,700	1,900	1,450	1,140	1,000	800	400	300	250	200	200
Delta District	61,260	62,020	66,540	71,680	74,660	69,860	68,490	65,080	64,830	60,570	59,240
California, total	67,300	67,260	71,510	76,750	79,780	75,490	73,950	70,570	65,270	63,540	63,540

a Subject to revision.

b Preliminary.

c No acreage reported.

Sources of data:

- 1936-1939: U.S. Department of Agriculture and California Department of Agriculture, Marketing California Asparagus - 1941 Season, San Francisco, Calif., March 1942, p. 5.
- 1940-1946: U.S. Department of Agriculture and California Department of Agriculture, Marketing California Asparagus - 1945 Season, San Francisco, Calif., May 1946, p. 5. (1946 data for total fresh market and processing acreage from Table 1.)

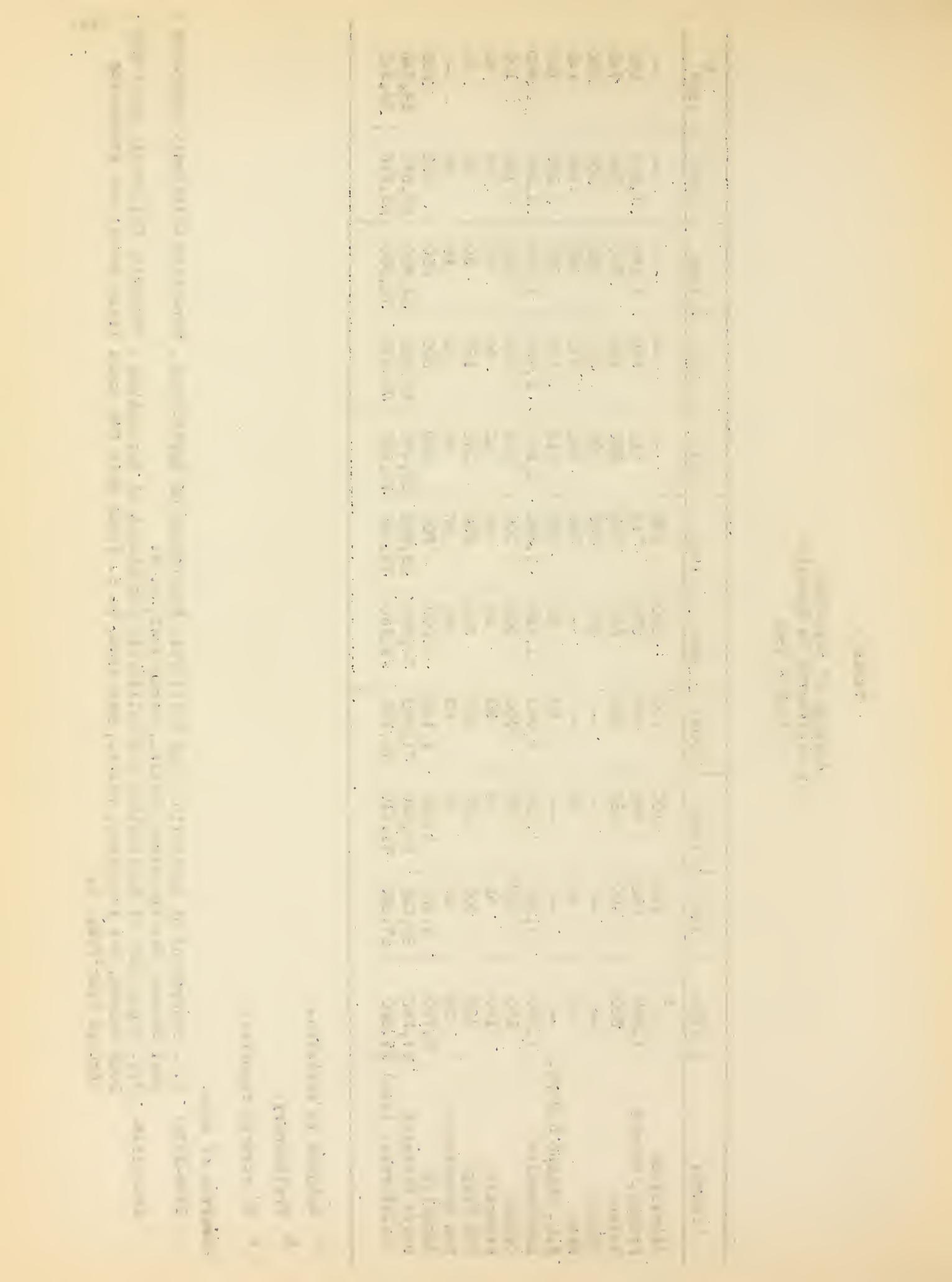


TABLE 3
Plantings, Acreage and Pack of Asparagus
in California^a 1929-1947

Calendar year	Plowed out	Planted	Acres to cut	Intentions to plant	Estimated boxes	Canned pack
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1929	1,754	5,877	51,587	6,106	3,362,805	2,672,637
1930	1,722	9,488	53,200	10,189	3,736,288	2,663,191
1931	2,491	9,248	58,456	9,886	3,900,940	1,747,499
1932	3,835	2,019	65,422	2,913	3,903,578	1,313,231
1933	5,794	2,603	70,925	2,110	4,114,850	2,134,943
1934	5,327	3,603	66,923	4,306	4,184,675	1,914,208
1935	6,753	8,028	64,337	12,861	4,105,690	2,238,371
1936	7,199	10,947	61,257	14,202	3,817,775	2,349,661
1937	6,508	14,471	62,015	18,143	4,028,790	2,072,590
1938	9,523	9,711	68,065	13,211	4,327,315	1,796,377
1939	5,224	5,113	73,252	7,586	4,213,595	1,849,345
1940	8,747	5,820	76,253	4,466	4,456,455	2,181,515
1941	5,312	7,443	72,076	10,428	4,302,270	1,578,018
1942	11,606	7,492	71,268	11,058	4,218,735	2,258,046
1943	7,968	2,371	68,204	2,503	4,099,725	2,070,760
1944	6,594	2,784	67,690	3,998	4,098,595	2,436,385
1945	4,490	5,795	63,293	5,990	4,C55,680	2,479,952
1946	5,946	7,716	61,543	9,869	4,110,210	2,783,460
1947			61,299	12,830	3,989,140	

a Data for area north of the Tehachapi only.

Source of data: Canners League of California, Special Bulletin, January 16, 1947. All surveys are based on the amount of asparagus available from April 1 to June 30, inclusive, white or regular asparagus cut seven inches in length in boxes of 48 pounds net weight. All-green canning asparagus and all shipping asparagus are reduced to this common denominator.

TABLE 4
Production of Asparagus in the United States
by States for Fresh Market^a
1918 - 1946

State	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
California	629	384	505	367	310	491	817	1,268	1,789	1,515	2,047	1,460	2,152	2,496
Arizona	-- ^c	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	22
Oregon	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	49	51	
Washington	--	--	--	--	--	36	30	58	75	130	171	176	190	190
Nevada	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9	8	8
Georgia	60	57	41	74	65	91	32	54	70	118	124	104	102	116
South Carolina	66	60	65	75	80	100	105	166	249	288	272	315	374	387
Maryland	42	31	33	31	29	31	106	144	152	208	186	171	144	160
Delaware	32	22	36	37	35	51	88	72	112	102	67	89	65	94
New Jersey	414	360	361	343	380	428	656	720	782	892	882	918	1,150	1,101
Pennsylvania	71	69	66	66	73	65	77	73	70	72	176	191	235	220
Massachusetts	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	185	194	196	225
Michigan	8	13	14	14	16	22	19	30	34	48	72	98	97	123
Illinois	90	129	137	138	122	122	140	148	134	192	185	218	216	254
Iowa	5	5	6	11	11	10	10	9	9	14	14	26	23	26
Total														
United States	1,417	1,130	1,264	1,156	1,121	1,447	2,080	2,742	3,492	3,592	4,417	4,026	5,001	5,473

(Continued on next page.)

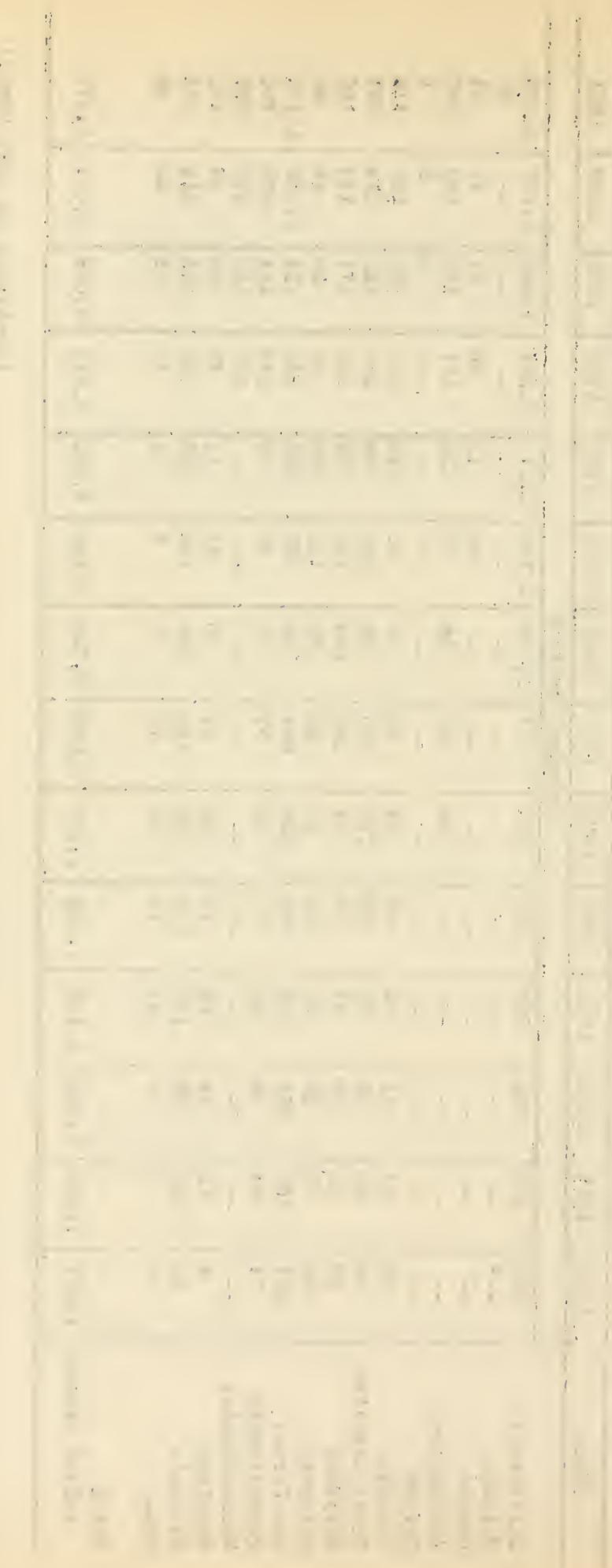


Table 4 continued.

State	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
thousand crates ^b															
California	3,264	2,498	2,773	1,995	2,633	2,233	1,920	2,264	2,895	3,055	2,345	2,866	2,342	1,476	1,778
Arizona	27	24	30	30	29	26	19	20	16	18	10	6	5	--	--
Oregon	50	52	66	52	78	78	78	70	77	91	80	88	72	104	104
Washington	206	160	329	216	462	495	399	610	1,020	1,271	1,232	1,568	1,395	1,504	1,551
Nevada	9	8	5	4	5	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Georgia	68	86	83	84	74	76	63	52	38	39	38	23	12	--	--
South Carolina	304	380	261	361	342	396	370	353	290	249	320	288	281	292	252
Maryland	190	210	343	242	275	310	292	259	281	292	276	230	252	240	250
Delaware	94	99	117	99	121	138	150	140	154	160	180	160	182	187	201
New Jersey	1,200	1,378	1,523	1,482	1,601	1,624	1,903	2,079	2,245	2,520	3,045	2,970	3,262	3,150	3,450
Pennsylvania	235	218	276	218	209	206	220	231	253	242	264	270	235	230	242
Massachusetts	204	215	174	189	195	177	159	158	154	144	158	149	140	144	136
Michigan	142	115	116	152	184	239	222	209	278	385	468	525	556	432	520
Illinois	275	329	380	465	403	540	518	576	650	686	760	697	774	800	842
Iowa	27	21	18	22	13	12	21	20	60	67	37	40	38	68	88
Total United States	6,295	5,793	6,599	5,611	6,624	6,553	6,334	7,041	8,411	9,219	9,213	9,880	9,546	8,627	9,414

a Includes some asparagus in states other than California which is used for processing.

b Crate containing approximately 24 pounds.

c No production reported.

Sources of data: See sources listed in Table 1 for fresh market.

TABLE 5

Yield per Acre of Asparagus
for Fresh Market and for Commercial Processing
by Major Producing States, 1918-1946

Calendar year	Fresh market						Commercial processing California
	California	Washington	S. Carolina	New Jersey	Michigan	Illinois	
	—c	60	115	70	54	166	
1918	155	—c	60	115	70	54	166
1919	140	—c	55	100	65	65	148
1920	125	—c	45	95	68	66	134
1921	100	—c	50	88	68	65	103
1922	110	—c	50	95	80	51	127
1923	120	80	48	95	90	50	138
1924	135	58	30	82	55	53	155
1925	110	80	37	90	75	55	122
1926	115	87	47	92	67	44	114
1927	100	100	45	105	80	57	101
1928	110	98	40	98	72	50	118
1929	110	88	42	102	75	52	131
1930	125	95	45	125	69	48	133
1931	95	95	43	121	88	54	98
1932	85	98	32	125	89	54	92
1933	90	80	40	130	72	62	93
1934	90	143	38	136	68	73	98
1935	90	90	38	130	80	93	98
1936	105	165	36	138	92	79	117
1937	95	150	45	131	114	100	98
1938	80	105	43	142	101	96	78
1939	85	115	43	125	95	96	79
1940	94	150	35	129	96	97	92
1941	85	155	30	140	110	94	80
1942	92	145	40	145	120	95	89
1943	95	165	40	135	125	82	91
1944	96	150	42	145	125	91	98
1945	92	160	45	140	90	100	90
1946	110	165	42	150	100	104	113

(Continued on next page.)

Table 5 continued.

a Includes some *Asperagus* in states other than California which is used for processing.

b Crates containing approximately 24 pounds.

c No data reported.

Source of data: See sources listed in Table 1.

TABLE 6

Utilization of United States
Harvested Asparagus Production
1918 - 1945

Calendar year	U.S. total production	Fresh ^a		Canned	Frozen
		1	2 thousand pounds ^b		
1918	79,148	34,008	45,140	--	--
1919	78,600	27,120	51,480	--	--
1920	81,396	30,336	51,060	--	--
1921	72,204	27,744	44,460	--	--
1922	88,864	26,904	61,960	--	--
1923	110,668	34,728	75,940	--	--
1924	139,580	49,920	89,660	--	--
1925	152,588	65,808	86,780	--	--
1926	195,488	83,808	111,680	--	--
1927	191,308	86,208	105,100	--	--
1928	223,228	106,008	117,220	--	--
1929	230,204	96,624	133,580	--	--
1930	253,544	120,024	133,520	--	--
1931	218,872	131,752	87,520	--	--
1932	221,700	151,080	70,620	--	--
1933	247,352	139,032	108,320	--	--
1934	258,456	145,955	112,501	--	--
1935	248,144	110,643	137,501	--	--
1936	277,196	135,528	141,668	--	--
1937	259,652	121,044	125,001	13,607	--
1938	241,336	103,045	120,834	17,457	--
1939	264,204	123,191	125,001	16,012	--
1940	309,624	146,692	150,001	12,931	--
1941	297,196	135,034	145,835	16,327	--
1942	324,752	125,708	186,502	12,542	--
1943	325,200	126,246	173,418	25,536	--
1944	336,584	129,679	180,043	26,862	--
1945	314,564	82,197	187,502	44,865	--

(Continued on next page.)

Table 6 continued.

- a Includes small quantities of canned utilization in states other than California through 1933.
- b Farm weight.
- c No data reported.

Sources of data:

- Col. 1: Sum of cols. 2, 3, 4.
- Col. 2: Data from Table 4 converted from crates to pounds on basis of 24 pounds per crate, minus: frozen (other than Calif.) from Western Canner and Packer, April 25, 1946, Yearbook, p. 293. Converted to farm weight by conversion factor of 2.174. Canned (other than Calif.) obtained as difference between col. 3 and California canned (Calif. canned is difference between Calif. Processed from Table 11 and Calif. frozen pack from Western Canner and Packer, April 25, 1946, p. 293. Converted to farm weight by conversion factor of 2.174.)
- Col. 3: 1937-1941: U.S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Fruit and Vegetable Canning Industries, 1934-45, Washington, D.C., 1945, p. 90. Converted from cases of 24 no. 2's by factor of 41.667.
- 1942-1945: U.S. Bureau of Census, Canned Fruits and Vegetables, March 7, 1946, Table 4. Converted from cases of 24 no. 2's by factor of 41.667.
- Col. 4: Western Canner and Packer, Yearbook, April 25, 1946, p. 293. Converted from pack weight to farm weight by factor of 2.174.

TABLE 7

Utilization of California
Harvested Asparagus Production
1918 - 1946

Calendar year	California total production		Fresh 2	Canned 3	Frozen 4	---b
	1	thousand pounds ^a				
1918	60,236	15,096	45,140			--
1919	60,696	9,216	51,480			--
1920	63,180	12,120	51,060			--
1921	52,268	8,808	44,460			--
1922	69,400	7,440	61,960			--
1923	87,724	11,784	75,940			--
1924	109,268	19,608	89,600			--
1925	117,212	30,432	86,780			--
1926	154,616	42,936	111,680			--
1927	141,460	36,360	105,100			--
1928	166,348	49,128	117,220			--
1929	168,620	35,040	133,580			--
1930	185,168	51,648	133,520			--
1931	147,424	59,904	87,520			--
1932	148,956	78,336	70,620			--
1933	168,272	59,952	108,320			--
1934	166,752	66,672	100,080			--
1935	161,360	47,880	113,480			--
1936	181,412	63,192	118,220			--
1937	155,972	53,592	101,993			387
1938	135,400	46,080	87,024			2,296
1939	149,556	54,336	89,894			5,326
1940	177,240	62,480	106,358			1,402
1941	149,260	73,320	74,779			1,161
1942	159,920	56,280	100,683			2,957
1943	156,864	58,784	82,723			5,357
1944	163,688	56,208	105,015			2,465
1945	141,764	35,424	95,248			11,092
1946			42,672			

(Continued on next page.)

Table 7 continued.

- a Farm weight.
- b No data reported.

Sources of data:

- Col. 1: Sum of cols. 2, 3, 4.
- Col. 2: Data from Table 4 converted to farm weight on basis of 24 pounds per crate.
- Col. 3: Production for processing from Table 11 minus col. 4.
- Col. 4: Western Canner and Packing, Yearbook, April 25, 1946, p. 293. Converted from frozen pack weight to farm weight by factor of 2.174.

TABLE 8
Carlot Shipments of Fresh Asparagus
By States of Origin
1920-1945

Year	California	Georgia	Illinois	Maryland	New Jersey	So. Carolina	Washington	Others	Total U.S.
1920	502	-- ^a	164	--	465	89	1	5	1,226
1921	362	--	170	--	237	129	2	2	902
1922	304	--	161	--	154	143	5	--	767
1923	458	--	93	--	64	154	10	6	785
1924	718	8	157	--	156	185	10	1	1,235
1925	1,279	--	165	3	150	263	31	15	1,906
1926	1,503	53	144	4	226	264	111	14	2,419
1927	1,154	111	158	3	156	447	93	10	2,132
1928	1,875	158	213	--	34	463	127	7	2,877
1929	1,154	120	146	3	33	507	107	32	2,102
1930	1,745	145	142	24	53	551	105	24	2,789
1931	2,793	154	146	37	32	590	67	47	3,866
1932	3,531	75	76	35	4	474	88	46	4,329
1933	2,237	104	112	75	--	584	50	41	3,203
1934	2,734	88	71	79	1	497	108	51	3,629
1935	1,385	97	66	87	3	494	23	47	2,202
1936	2,181	81	33	58	1	380	65	42	2,841
1937	1,731	53	20	27	1	302	50	21	2,205
1938	1,274	64	19	7	--	288	9	12	1,673
1939	1,607	56	17	9	--	251	56	13	2,009
1940	2,552	25	--	3	8	192	133	16	2,929
1941	2,292	--	--	7	3	101	93	1	2,497
1942	1,505	22	12	3	16	80	58	5	1,701
1943	1,901	--	4	--	27	69	87	--	2,088
1944	1,641	1	12	--	--	139	54	5	1,852
1945	829	--	11	--	12	111	18	--	981

a No shipments reported.

Sources of data:

U.S. Production and Marketing Administration, and California Bureau of Market News, Marketing California Asparagus, San Francisco, Publications for 1926-28, 1930-32, 1934-35, 1938-40, 1942-45.

TABLE 9

Carlot Distribution of California
Fresh Asparagus Shipments
By States of Destination
Seasons 1933-1945 Feb.-June

State of destination	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Alabama	-- ^a	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6	2	1
Arizona	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	5	3	10
Colorado	26	41	22	45	32	23	33	47	43	21	28	40	24
Connecticut	19	21	16	33	18	16	17	14	11	4	14	10	3
Dist. of Columbia	1	15	1	8	1	--	3	11	16	7	14	10	3
Georgia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9	5	3
Idaho	2	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	3	2	--
Illinois	270	362	179	333	228	178	281	456	402	265	326	298	159
Indiana	1	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	5	4	1
Iowa	13	23	7	16	29	6	11	16	8	5	7	10	2
Kansas	--	--	2	1	1	1	1	--	2	--	1	5	--
Kentucky	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4	3	--
Louisiana	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	15	1	--
Maryland	27	62	12	45	27	14	17	39	48	24	21	23	3
Massachusetts	197	263	140	180	147	192	175	216	201	143	150	100	47
Michigan	52	82	44	97	75	63	80	120	86	51	81	65	37
Minnesota	44	35	37	52	40	28	39	48	35	27	40	34	25
Mississippi	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	3	--
Missouri	49	121	29	77	47	17	45	77	64	37	63	60	20
Montana	4	2	2	6	--	--	6	4	2	4	3	3	3
Nebraska	16	38	10	19	22	9	24	28	22	10	17	12	8
New Jersey	16	56	56	95	70	39	21	62	78	54	143	91	37
New York	663	727	468	604	585	389	527	863	752	512	471	493	290
North Dakota	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	1	1	1	--
Ohio	51	85	45	96	70	49	72	125	108	80	77	60	36
Oregon	51	73	36	57	51	34	31	42	30	16	36	27	30

(Continued on next page.)

Table 9 continued.

State of destination	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Pennsylvania	323	393	158	241	188	104	169	285	269	180	211	145	32
Rhode Island	11	20	10	16	12	5	9	19	14	6	7	16	--
Tennessee	1	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5	2	--
Texas	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	7	27	9	4	--
Utah	17	10	9	10	8	3	2	3	5	2	10	16	15
Virginia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4	1	--
Washington	48	53	27	72	33	18	40	52	56	20	58	37	47
Wisconsin	17	17	12	15	17	8	4	10	8	12	21	12	9
Wyoming	--	--	1	--	--	2	--	1	--	3	2	3	--
Other States	--	--	--	--	1	--	1	--	1	1	13	--	--
Canada	26	52	30	58	52	36	41	--	--	29	26	21	--
Total	1,946	2,561	1,355	2,176	1,755	1,232	1,651	2,540	2,262	1,493	1,930	1,631	873

a No data reported.

Sources of data:

U.S. Production and Marketing Administration and California Bureau of Market News, Marketing California Asparagus, San Francisco, publications for 1934-1945.

TABLE 10

Season's Average Price Received by Farmers for Fresh
 Market and Processing Asparagus by States
 1918 - 1946

State	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
dollars per crete														
Fresh:														
California	2.05	2.20	2.10	1.95	2.50	2.65	2.45	2.05	1.60	1.50	2.25	1.90	2.20	1.69
Arizona	-- ^a	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.60
Oregon	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.40	2.50	2.00	2.25	2.10	1.80
Washington	--	--	--	--	--	3.15	2.70	2.65	2.35	1.60	2.10	1.99	1.92	1.90
Nevada	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.16	2.48	1.96
Georgia	2.60	2.70	2.85	2.80	3.60	3.25	3.80	3.70	3.40	3.10	2.75	2.85	2.50	1.85
South Carolina	2.45	2.60	2.25	2.85	3.30	3.30	4.25	3.45	3.10	3.00	2.90	3.00	2.25	2.00
Maryland	4.00	3.50	3.00	2.90	2.70	3.20	2.70	2.65	2.50	2.20	2.35	2.45	2.60	2.00
Delaware	2.75	2.75	2.95	3.30	3.75	3.40	2.70	2.55	2.60	2.05	1.65	2.35	2.45	2.00
New Jersey	2.05	1.90	2.45	2.75	2.70	2.50	2.40	2.60	2.45	2.25	1.96	2.00	1.72	1.48
Pennsylvania	3.00	4.90	5.00	3.10	4.00	5.10	3.45	2.65	2.75	3.20	2.60	2.25	1.70	1.40
Massachusetts	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3.65	3.60	3.10	2.50
Michigan	3.85	3.85	2.90	3.10	2.50	3.05	2.75	2.55	2.90	2.75	2.40	2.15	1.90	1.55
Illinois	2.40	2.95	3.40	3.10	3.00	3.50	3.40	2.50	2.25	2.10	2.70	3.15	2.75	2.25
Iowa	3.00	2.70	2.40	3.00	2.65	3.00	3.10	2.50	2.45	2.40	3.00	2.50	2.50	2.00
Average														
All states	2.25	2.47	2.58	2.60	2.89	2.84	2.68	2.42	2.09	2.01	2.33	2.25	2.13	1.74
dollars per ton														
Processing:														
California	65.00	85.00	110.00	70.00	85.00	100.00	100.00	78.00	66.00	70.00	79.00	82.00	81.00	75.00

(Continued on next page.)

Table 10 continued.

State	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Fresh:															
California	1.27	1.11	1.00	1.25	1.40	1.51	1.17	1.29	1.72	1.82	2.05	2.75	2.70	2.70	3.30
Arizona	1.90	1.00	1.08	2.00	1.55	1.85	1.95	1.75	1.70	2.15	2.55	4.00	4.00	--	--
Oregon	1.50	1.10	1.65	1.20	1.25	1.35	1.40	1.10	1.05	1.25	1.75	2.20	2.35	2.35	2.20
Washington	1.45	.80	1.10	1.05	1.10	1.20	1.20	.98	1.03	1.20	1.45	1.85	2.05	2.15	2.15
Nevada	1.30	.63	1.20	1.30	1.25	1.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Georgia	1.00	1.20	1.20	1.75	1.38	1.80	1.83	1.75	1.50	1.75	1.65	2.75	3.25	--	--
So. Carolina	1.20	1.20	1.50	1.58	1.06	1.66	1.73	1.52	1.20	1.00	1.40	2.65	3.00	3.85	3.75
Maryland	1.20	1.05	.96	1.30	1.30	1.60	1.40	1.10	1.05	1.35	1.50	2.60	2.90	4.00	2.65
Delaware	1.15	1.00	.88	1.30	1.30	1.50	1.35	1.00	.95	1.15	1.30	2.30	2.65	3.80	2.45
New Jersey	1.12	1.00	1.05	1.05	1.32	1.25	1.65	1.45	1.32	1.52	1.65	2.50	2.10	2.80	2.45
Pennsylvania	.95	1.30	1.10	1.50	1.40	1.60	1.90	1.80	1.75	1.70	1.90	3.00	3.80	3.95	3.95
Massachusetts	2.05	1.80	2.00	2.10	2.35	2.40	2.20	2.20	2.10	2.35	2.50	3.55	3.40	4.40	4.00
Michigan	1.25	.90	1.05	1.05	1.20	1.45	1.30	1.23	1.14	1.27	1.65	2.05	2.05	2.20	2.10
Illinois	1.15	1.05	1.25	1.10	1.10	1.35	1.35	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	1.95	2.10	2.35	2.35
Iowa	1.10	.95	1.50	1.35	1.25	1.30	1.65	1.50	1.80	2.00	2.55	2.55	1.58	1.70	1.70
Average:															
All states	1.25	1.10	1.10	1.25	1.34	1.45	1.34	1.42	1.55	1.72	2.44	2.36	2.76	2.62	
Processing:															
California	51.00	46.00	67.00	76.00	79.00	90.95	71.10	72.80	87.60	106.55	118.15	151.30	153.30	168.00	183.00

a No price reported.

Sources of data: See sources listed in Table 1.

TABLE 11

Season's Average Price^a Paid to Growers
by Canners for California Asparagus
and California Production for
Commercial Processing
1932-1946

Season	Price of white ^b	Price of all-green ^b	Production for processing ^c
	1	2	3 tons
1932	.02604	.02383	35,310
1933	.0238	.0209	54,180
1934	.0322	.0358	50,040
1935	.0364	.04258	56,740
1936	.0383	.04473	59,110
1937	.0425	.05404	51,190
1938	.0316	.04237	44,660
1939	.03369	.04534	47,610
1940	.0406	.0527	53,880
1941	.0500	.06092	37,970
1942	.0553	.0650	51,820
1943	.0705	.08127	44,040
1944	.0723	.08141	53,740
1945	.07719	.086915	53,300
1946	.0829	.0952	63,960

a Obtained by dividing total amount spent by all canners for purchase of asparagus
by total number of pounds purchased.

Sources of data:

Cols. 1 - 2: Canners League of California, Special Bulletin, San Francisco, Calif.,
January 16, 1947.

Col. 3: See sources listed in Table 1 for processing.

TABLE 12

Canned Asparagus Pack for the United States
by States and by Type of Asparagus
1934-1946

States	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
<i>Actual cases</i>							
California: Total	1,914,208	2,238,000	2,349,661	2,072,590	1,796,377	1,849,345	2,181,515
Regular	1,267,344	1,649,000	1,853,291	1,503,016	1,173,016	1,442,058	1,640,004
All-green	646,864	589,000	496,370	566,807	623,361	407,287	541,511
N.J., Del., Md.: Total	97,939	90,705	117,289	178,266	179,431	251,966	348,646
Regular	5,256	--	--	--	--	7,159	7,21
All-green	92,683	90,705	117,289	178,266	179,431	244,807	348,325
Ill., Ind., Ia., Nebr.: Total	65,991	100,155	128,113	244,748	240,785	245,177	245,465
Regular	5,231	5,781	8,752	7,814	2,208	7,582	7,863
All-green	80,760	94,374	119,361	236,934	238,577	237,695	237,602
Mich., Ohio: Total	28,748	55,532	73,908	83,257	87,644	88,187	114,446
Regular	--	--	4,500	--	4,808	5,493	--
All-green	28,748	55,532	69,408	83,257	82,836	82,694	114,446
Wash., Ore., Utah: Total	19,663	30,366	69,963	75,775	76,317	85,217	174,995
Regular	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
All-green	19,663	30,366	69,963	75,775	76,317	85,217	174,995
Southern: Total	2,582	4,800	52,060	49,330	22,660	--	7,495
Regular	900	--	2,600	2,100	--	--	--
All-green	1,682	4,800	49,460	47,230	22,660	--	7,495
United States: Total	2,149,131	2,519,558	2,790,994	2,703,966	2,403,214	2,519,892	3,108,562
Regular	1,278,731	1,654,781	1,869,143	1,513,697	1,180,032	1,462,292	1,648,186
All-green	870,400	864,777	921,851	1,190,269	1,223,182	1,057,600	1,460,374

(Continued on next page.)

Table 12 continued.

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
	actual cases					
California: Total	1,578,018	2,258,046	2,970,760	2,436,385	2,479,952	2,783,450
Regular	1,079,222	1,402,642	1,061,086	1,308,214	1,180,127	1,156,052
All-green	498,796	855,804	1,003,674	1,128,171	1,299,825	1,627,408
N.J., Del., Md.: Total	519,167	652,694	643,212	590,320	432,406	624,386
Regular	2,339	--	--	--	--	--
All-green	516,826	652,694	643,212	590,320	432,406	624,386
Ill., Ind., Ia., Nebr.: Total	420,359	348,364	343,280	314,882	362,246	396,388
Regular	19,434	6,550	5,040	1,524	932	--
All-green	400,925	341,814	337,240	313,358	361,314	396,388
Mich., Ohio: Total	183,996	196,146	237,525	230,736	209,299	260,516
Regular	--	--	23,346	--	15,544	36,336
All-green	183,996	196,146	209,179	230,736	193,755	224,180
Ore., Ore., Utah: Total	306,922	248,847	246,950	253,060	248,603	208,977
Regular	--	--	909	--	248,603	208,977
All-green	306,922	248,847	245,041	253,060	248,603	208,977
Southern: Total	18,751	210,733	7,420	7,221	187,998	168,905
Regular	--	3,142	--	--	187,998	--
All-green	18,751	207,591	7,420	7,221	187,998	168,905
United States: Total	3,027,213	3,914,630	3,554,147	3,832,604	3,920,504	4,442,632
Regular	1,100,995	1,411,934	1,096,381	1,309,738	1,196,603	1,192,386
All-green	1,926,218	2,502,896	2,457,766	2,522,866	2,723,901	3,250,244

Source of data: Conners League of California, Special Bulletins of December 24, 1940 and January 16, 1947. San Francisco.

TABLE 13

California Canned Asparagus
Pack, Carryover and Shipments
Seasons 1925-26 to 1946-47

Season (Mar.-Feb.)	Carryover March 1 (From previous year)	Total supply available		Shipments 4	Carryover March 1 (into follow- ing year) 5
		Pack 2	actual cases 3		
1925-26	170,000	1,744,999	1,914,999	1,663,648	251,351
1926-27	251,351	2,236,111	2,487,462	2,081,821	405,641
1927-28	405,641	2,189,570	2,595,211	2,193,025	402,186
1928-29	402,186	2,337,950	2,740,136	2,470,723	269,410
1929-30	269,410	2,672,637	2,942,047	2,618,896	323,151
1930-31	323,151	2,663,191	2,986,342	2,028,755	957,587
1931-32	957,587	1,747,499	2,705,086	1,645,792	1,059,294
1932-33	1,059,294	1,313,231	2,372,525	1,918,819	453,706
1933-34	1,53,706	2,134,943	2,588,649	2,312,790	275,859
1934-35	275,859	1,914,208	2,190,067	1,979,804	210,263
1935-36	210,263	2,238,400	2,448,663	2,143,412	305,251
1936-37	305,251	2,345,661	2,654,912	2,133,282	521,630
1937-38	521,630	2,072,590	2,594,220	2,017,865	576,355
1938-39	576,355	1,796,377	2,372,732	1,922,497	450,235
1939-40	450,235	1,846,345	2,299,580	2,126,211	173,369
1940-41	173,369	2,181,515	2,354,884	1,955,520	399,364
1941-42	399,364	1,578,018	1,977,382	1,670,151	307,231
1942-43	307,231	2,258,046	2,565,277	2,344,783	220,494
1943-44	620,494	2,070,760	2,291,254	2,114,039	177,215
1944-45	177,215	2,436,385	2,613,600	2,461,679	151,921
1945-46	151,921	2,479,952	2,631,873	2,505,605	126,268
1946-47	126,268	2,783,460	2,909,728		

Source of data: Canners League of California, Special Bulletin, January 16, 1947, San Francisco.

TABLE 14

Canned Apples: Total Annual Supplies
and Shipments of Packers, Wholesale Distributors and Chain Store
Warehouses in the United States, 1944-35 to 1946-47

Year beginning Mar. 1, 1934-41 and Apr. 1, 1942-47	Beginning stocks			Total annual supply			Packers' shipments			Packer's and dis- tributors, domestic civilian shipments		
	Packers' carryover from preceding year's pack	Distrib- utors' stocks	Packers' and dis- tributors' stocks (cal- ender year)	Packers' (1+5)	Packers' and dis- tributors' (4+5)	Total (6-1)	Exports and war services	To civi- lans (8-9)	Packers' shipments (7-4-9)	Total cans	2 cans	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1934-35	0.3	— ^a	0.8	1.1	2.7	3.0	3.8	2.7	2.1	2.3	2.4	
1935-36	0.3	—	0.6	0.9	3.3	3.6	4.2	3.2	0.6	2.6	2.4	
1936-37	0.4	—	0.8	1.2	3.4	3.8	4.6	3.0	0.6	2.4	2.5	
1937-38	0.8	—	0.7	1.2	3.0	3.8	4.5	3.0	0.5	2.5	2.5	
1938-39	0.8	—	0.7	1.3	2.9	3.7	4.4	3.0	0.1	2.9	2.8	
1939-40	0.7	—	0.8	1.5	3.5	3.7	4.5	3.4	0.4	3.0	3.1	
1940-41	0.3	—	0.7	1.0	2.6	3.9	4.6	2.3	0.2	3.1	3.2	
1941-42	0.6	—	0.6	1.2	3.5	4.1	4.7	2.8	0.4	3.4	3.0	
1942-43	0.3	—	1.0	1.2	4.5	4.8	5.8	4.3	1.1	3.2	3.4	
1943-44	0.5	0.3	0.8	1.3	4.2	4.7	5.5	4.4	1.4	3.0	3.1	
1944-45 ^b	0.3	0.1	0.7	1.0	4.3	4.6	5.3	4.4	1.6	2.8	3.2	
1945-46 ^b	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.5	4.5	4.7	5.0	3.9	1.5	2.4	2.6	
1946-47 ^b	0.8	0.5	0.1	0.9	4.9	5.7	5.8	5.3	0.7	4.6	4.3	
1947-48 ^b	0.4	—	0.4	0.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

a Indicates none held for government.
b Estimates.

Sources of data:

All colis. 1934-35 to 1944-45 and cols. 1-4, 1945-46: U.S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Fruit and Vegetable Canning Industries, 1934-45, Washington, July 15, 1945, p. 90. (Industrial Series No. 15 Revised.)

All cols. 1945-46 to 1947-48: U.S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Industry Report - Canned Fruits and Vegetables - Production and Wholesale Distribution, Washington, October 1946, p. 35.

Summary of California Canning Asparagus Controls

The following material has been compiled and made available in summary form for the benefit of those readers of Circular 373, "California Asparagus, Economic Status, 1947, who are particularly interested in the control programs. Although no program was in effect and operative for California Canning Asparagus during 1946, production and market conditions during the next several years may encourage the reinstitution of various types of orders and programs. In view of such possible developments, the following summary is presented.

1933.-- Faced with a prospective crop considerably larger than that of the previous year, California growers and packers proposed formation of a central clearing house to market the harvest and take care of the expected surplus. It proved impossible to bring all factions into agreement, however, and the plan was dropped.

1934.-- No regular federal marketing agreement was used, but the California canners operated under government license, and were controlled by a committee which fixed the pack at 1,900,000 cases, set the season opening and closing dates, and established minimum prices to the growers.

1935.-- A Triple-A marketing agreement was used this season. It set the pack at 2,250,000 cases, and established opening and closing dates. The agreement was based on a schedule of minimum prices to growers which became the going prices for the season.

1936.-- Asparagus was governed by the first agreement drawn up under the California Marketing Agreement Act, chapter 677, passed by the 1935 Legislature. The agreement covered 27 canners and affected 303 growers of asparagus in California. It provided for the impartial grading of all asparagus for canning and limited the packing season to not more than 90

days. Only No. 1 grades of white and green could be packed. The packing period began shortly after April 1 and continued to June 30, 1936. During this period, 2,349,661 cases were canned, which was considered by the Industry Board not to be in excess of trade requirements. All inferior and cull asparagus was segregated from deliveries and disposed of in noncommercial channels, so that the general level of quality of the pack improved. Also, at the beginning of the season the percentage of the daily cut delivered to canneries was regulated, thus preventing gluts in fresh markets. No growers' prices were set, nor was the size of the pack limited in quantity.

1937.-- The Marketing Agreement and license for the industry covering the 1936 crop terminated on March 15, 1937. A new agreement and license became effective April 13, 1937, for the 1937 crop, and terminated with the statute (of 1935) on September 30, 1937. Two hundred and eighty-four growers and twenty-two canners were affected. A variable opening date was provided for, and the length of the canning period was limited by a season's closing date. Only No. 1 white and green asparagus could be packed. Grading requirements further set the minimum diameter of asparagus stalks from 3/8 to 7/16 inches, and limited the green tip on white asparagus to 1½ inches with a tolerance of 5 per cent. An Industry Board was established which supervised the inspection and assisted the state Director of Agriculture in the administration of the program.

1938.-- Under the California Marketing Act of 1937, a Marketing Order for this industry was made effective by the Director on April 27, 1938. The Order provided principally for grading and inspection of the 1938 pack, and for setting up an Advisory Board. No limitation of the quantity of the pack or the packing season was provided.

Under the Agricultural Prorate Act, the 1938 pack was set at 1,800,000

cases as the compromise figure after growers had petitioned for control. The total audited pack for the season was 1,796,377 cases. There was no price-fixing in the agreement.

1939.-- The Marketing Order, under the California Marketing Act of 1937, became effective April 27, 1939, for the 1939 season only. This Order provided only for grading and inspection for both white and green asparagus as well as for strained foods, and had no direct bearing on either the length of the canning season or the size of the pack. The Asparagus Advisory Board administered the order. Under the Agricultural Frorate Act, the program committee fixed the canned asparagus pack at 1,850,000 cases, exclusive of soups, purées, etc. A suit brought against the program by one packer was dismissed.

1940.-- The yearly Marketing Order, under the Marketing Act of 1937, became effective April 18, 1940, to cover only the 1940 season. Again it established minimum grading requirements for both white and green asparagus, as well as for strained foods grade, and provided for the inspection of all asparagus delivered to canners. The Asparagus Advisory Board administered the order as in previous years.

Under the Agricultural Frorate Act the legal pack limit was set at 2,175,000 cases of canned asparagus, exclusive of canned strained asparagus. A closing date, June 30, 1940, was set but the limit of permissible deliveries was reached on June 25 and deliveries ceased at that time. However, producers whose beds had been severely flooded were permitted to deliver for canning until June 30, thus increasing the pack approximately 5,000 cases over the legal limit. No grower prices were fixed.

1941.-- Under the Marketing Act, the Marketing Order for canning asparagus for the year was set up as of April 17, 1941. About 435 growers and 22 canning firms were affected. The Order again provided for the

establishment of minimum grading requirements for white and green and a strained foods grade; for inspection of all asparagus delivered to the canneries; and for an Asparagus Advisory Board to administer the control. The Asparagus Proration Program for Asparagus Proration Zone No. 1^{1/} continued in effect during the 1941 season, with authority to fix the maximum seasonal pack and set a closing date for deliveries for canning. However, the Proration Program Committee for the Zone recommended that there be no limitation of the quantity delivered for canning; and further that June 20 be set as the final date for such deliveries to safeguard the quality of the canned pack, recognizing that asparagus harvested late in the season tends to yield a lower-quality pack. The Prorate Advisory Commission approved these recommendations and ordered no deliveries after June 20. Grower deliveries were considerably curtailed by a strike of workers from May 9 to May 23, and by flood and seepage losses.

1942.- The Marketing Order for the 1942 season became effective April 19, 1942, directly affecting about 325 growers and 21 canning firms. As for the previous five years, it provided for the establishment of a No. 1 grade for the various types of asparagus, inspection of all canning deliveries; and an Advisory Board of growers and canners to assist in the administration of the Order. The Marketing Program of Asparagus Proration Zone No. 1 continued in effect during the 1942 season with provision for grades for canning asparagus, limitation of pack, and establishment of a closing date for deliveries. For the 1942 season the Program Committee of the Zone recommended to the Director that there be no limitation of the quantity which might be delivered for canning, and that June 30 be established as the final date for deliveries in order to preserve the beds and

- - - - -

^{1/} Yolo, Sacramento, Solano, Sutter, Contra Costa, and San Joaquin counties.

to obtain a better canned product. The Director's order fixed the final delivery date as recommended.

1943.-- The seventh consecutive yearly order for canning asparagus issued under the California Marketing Act of 1937 became effective April 12, 1943. Its provisions were identical with those of 1942, and it affected about 358 growers and 21 canning firms. The Marketing Program of Asparagus Zone No. 1 under the Agricultural Prorate Act likewise contained the same provisions as in 1942. The Program Committee recommended, however, that no program be undertaken for the 1943 season, in view of the uncertain labor conditions and government orders relative to the pack and disposition of the final product. The Director approved this recommendation as well as the committee's recommendation that funds available to the committee be retained to be used to start the operation of the program in the 1944 season, if deemed advisable. The total audited pack was 2,070,760 cases.

1944.-- The eight consecutive yearly order for canning asparagus became effective on April 24, 1944, and contained the same provisions as previous Marketing Orders. Under the Agricultural Prorate Act, the Program Committee for Zone No. 1 did not consider it necessary to operate the program during the 1944 season, and the Director concurred. Thus again there was no limit on the pack and no closing date for deliveries, though the grading and inspection requirements, and the Advisory Board were still operative.

1945.-- Under the California Marketing Act of 1937, the ninth consecutive yearly Order for canning asparagus became effective on April 14, 1945. As previously, the Order provided for establishing No. 1 grades of the various types of asparagus, inspection and grading of all asparagus delivered for canning, and an Advisory Board composed of 5 producers and 5

canners to assist the Director in the administration of the Order. The Asparagus Proration Program was still in effect but not operative for the 1945 season. The total pack amounted to 2,479,952 cases and was greater than the 1944 pack. The indicated support prices for cannery asparagus remained at the 1944 level, namely 7 cents per pound for white and 8 cents for green. Prices paid by processors were varied and the weighted average for the season exceeded support price levels.

